



Department of State

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE), AR, US

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VIDELA-MONDALE MEETING IN ROME

REF: STATE 224143

FOLLOWING ON PRESS GUIDANCE SENT REFTEL FOR USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY, THERE FOLLOWS ADDITIONAL Q'S AND A'S CONCERNING THE PROPOSED SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING BETWEEN VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND ARGENTINE PRESIDENT VIDELA IN ROME DURING THE INSTALLATION OF POPE JOHN PAUL I. AGAIN WISH TO EMPHASIZE Q'S AND A'S ARE FOR USE ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY.

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Q: IS THE VICE PRESIDENT MEETING (HAS HE MET) WITH ANYONE ELSE?

A: THERE REALLY ISN'T MUCH TIME FOR EXTRA MEETINGS NOW. PRESIDENT VIDELA ASKED TO SEE THE VICE PRESIDENT, SO A SHORT MEETING WAS ARRANGED.

Q: WHAT DID THE VICE PRESIDENT AND VIDELA TALK ABOUT?

A: THEY BRIEFLY REVIEWED IN A GENERAL WAY THE STATE OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS. BOTH OF THEM AGREED THAT IT WAS

IMPORTANT THAT BOTH COUNTRIES SEEK TO STRENGTHEN THIS RELATIONSHIP.

Q: ISN'T HUMAN RIGHTS ONE OF THE SERIOUS PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ARGENTINA?

A: YES. IT WAS OF COURSE ONE OF THE TOPICS WHICH WAS COVERED DURING OUR REVIEW OF U.S.-ARGENTINE RELATIONS.

FOR ROME: YOU MAY SHARE THIS PRESS GUIDANCE WITH THE ARGENTINE EMBASSY. PLEASE IMPRESS ON THEM THAT WE INTEND THIS GUIDANCE FOR USE ON IF-ASKED BASIS ONLY. WE DO NOT INTEND TO PUBLICIZE THIS MEETING.

VANCE

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HA subject file

Arg- Aug 9 Testimony